

1. A swivel adapter operable by a user comprising:
  - a base having a first side facing in an outward direction away from the swivel adapter and a pivot surface extending from the first side in the outward direction;
  - 5 a center adapter mounted for pivoting motion on the pivot surface and having a first device connector facing in the outward direction;
  - a clamp having a clamp operator operable to clamp the center adapter on the pivot surface at a desired orientation with respect to the base, and
  - 10 unclamp the center adapter from the pivot surface, thereby allowing the center adapter to rotate with respect to the pivot surface.
2. The swivel adapter of claim 1 wherein the pivot surface is on a cylindrical boss and the center adapter has a split bore mountable over the cylindrical boss.
- 15 3. The swivel adapter of claim 2 wherein the clamp comprises:
  - a handle pivotally connected to the center adapter on one side of the split bore;
  - a rocker comprising one end pivotally connected to the center adapter on an opposite side of the split bore, the rocker having a first shoulder at an opposite end;
  - 20 a rod having one end pivotally connected to the handle and a second shoulder at an opposite end; and
  - biasing means disposed between the first shoulder and the second shoulder.
- 25 4. The swivel adapter of claim 3 wherein the rocker further comprises an adjuster threadedly connected to the rocker and having an internal bore housing the first shoulder and the biasing means, the adjuster being rotatable to vary a force provided by the biasing means.

5. The swivel adapter of claim 4 wherein the biasing means comprises a plurality of Belville springs.
6. The swivel adapter of claim 1 further comprising:  
5 a threaded member extending in the outward direction beyond the pivot surface; and  
a knob disposed against a side of the center adapter and extending in the outward direction, the knob being engageable with the threaded member, whereby tightening the knob on the threaded member locks the center adapter against the base at a desired orientation and loosening the knob  
10 releases the center adapter to be pivotable on the pivot surface.
7. The swivel adapter of claim 6 further comprising:  
a second device connector on the center adapter and facing the base; and  
a third device connector on the base and facing the second device  
15 connector, the second and third device connectors engaging in response to the knob being tightened, and the second and third device connectors disengaging in response to the knob being loosened.
8. The swivel adapter of claim 7 wherein the first device connector, the second device connector and the third device connector are starburst  
20 connectors.
9. The swivel adapter of claim 8 wherein the pivot surface is on a cylindrical boss and the center adapter has a bore mountable over the cylindrical boss.
10. The swivel adapter of claim 9 further comprising a screw extending  
25 through the knob, the cylindrical boss and the base, the screw adapted to thread into a device connector supported by the swivel adapter.

11. The swivel adapter of claim 10 wherein the base, center adapter and clamp are made of radiolucent materials.

12. A swivel adapter connectable to, and extending outward from, a head support comprising:

- 5        a base comprising
  - a first side facing in an outward direction away from the swivel adapter, and
    - a pivot surface extending from the first side in the outward direction;
- 10      a center adapter comprising
  - a split bore mountable for pivoting motion on the pivot surface, and
    - a device connector facing in the outward direction;
  - a clamp comprising
    - a handle pivotally connected to the center adapter on one side of the split bore,
    - a rocker comprising
      - one end pivotally connected to the center adapter on an opposite side of the split bore, and
      - a first shoulder at an opposite end of the rocker,
    - a rod comprising
      - one end pivotally connected to the handle, and
      - a second shoulder at an opposite end of the rod; and
    - a biasing means disposed between the first shoulder and the second shoulder, the handle being operable to clamp the center adapter on the pivot surface at a desired orientation with respect to the base, and unclamp the center adapter from the pivot surface, thereby allowing it to rotate with respect to the pivot surface.

- 20      a biasing means disposed between the first shoulder and the second shoulder, the handle being operable to clamp the center adapter on the pivot surface at a desired orientation with respect to the base, and unclamp the center adapter from the pivot surface, thereby allowing it to rotate with respect to the pivot surface.
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- 30      13. The swivel adapter of claim 12 wherein the biasing means is a plurality of Belville springs.

14. A swivel adapter operable by a user comprising:
  - a base comprising
    - a first side facing in an outward direction away from the swivel adapter, and
    - 5 a pivot surface extending from the first side in the outward direction;
    - a threaded member extending in the outward direction beyond the pivot surface;
  - a center adapter mountable for pivoting motion on the pivot surface
  - 10 and comprising
    - a first side extending in the outward direction and an opposite side facing the first side of the base,
    - a first device connector facing in the outward direction;
    - a knob disposed against the first side of the center adapter and
    - 15 engageable with the threaded member, whereby tightening the knob on the threaded member locks the center adapter against the base at a desired orientation and loosening the knob releases the center adapter to be pivotable on the pivot surface.
15. The swivel adapter of claim 14 further comprising:
  - 20 a second device connector on the base and facing in the outward direction; and
  - a third device connector on the center adapter and engageable with the second device connector upon the knob being tightened.
16. The swivel adapter of claim 14 wherein the base, center adapter, and  
25 the knob are made of radiolucent materials so that the swivel adapter is radiolucent.

17. A base unit handle connectable to a shaft and a bar comprising:
  - a body having first and second split bores adapted to receive the shaft and the bar, respectively;
  - a clamping mechanism connected to the body and being operable to clamp and unclamp the first and second split bores on the respective shaft and bar, the clamping mechanism comprising
    - 5 a rod having one end connected to the body,
    - a closing handle, and
    - linkage connected between one end of the rod and one end of
  - 10 the closing handle and providing a mechanical advantage in transferring a force being applied to the closing handle to the rod.
18. The base unit handle of claim 17 further comprising:
  - a transfer link having one end pivotally connected to the closing handle;
  - 15 a cam link having
    - one end pivotally connected to an opposite end of the transfer link; and
    - an opposite end pivotally connected to the rod.

19. An apparatus connectable to a surgical table comprising:  
a generally U-shaped frame having a crossbar and adapted to be  
connected to the surgical table;  
a transitional arm having a shaft on one end;  
5 a base unit handle comprising  
a body having a first split bore connectable to the crossbar and  
a second split bore connectable to the shaft on the transition arm;  
a clamping mechanism connected to the body and being  
operable to apply a clamping force simultaneously to the first split bore  
10 and the second split bore, the clamping mechanism comprising  
a cam rod having one end connected to the body,  
a closing handle, and  
linkage connected between one end of the cam rod and  
one end of the closing handle and providing a mechanical  
advantage in transferring a force being applied to the closing  
15 handle to the cam rod, thereby providing a greater clamping  
force with the closing handle than would be produced without  
the linkage.

20. An apparatus for supporting a head support at one end of a table comprising:

- a swivel adapter operable by a user comprising:
  - 5 a first side facing in an outward direction away from the swivel adapter, and
  - a pivot surface extending from the first side in the outward direction;
  - a device connector adapted to be connected to the head support,
- 10 a center adapter mounted for pivoting motion on the pivot surface and having a first device connector facing in the outward direction,
- a clamp having a clamp operator operable
  - 15 to clamp the center adapter on the pivot surface at a desired orientation with respect to the base, and
  - unclamp the center adapter from the pivot surface, and
  - a sleeve adapter connected to a lower end of the base;
- 20 a transitional arm having an upper end connectable to the sleeve adapter having a shaft on a lower end;
- a generally U-shaped frame having a crossbar and adapted to be connected to the table; and
- a base unit handle comprising
  - 25 a body having a first split bore connectable to the shaft of the transitional arm and a second split bore connectable to the crossbar,
  - a clamping mechanism connected to the body and being operable to clamp and unclamp the first split bore and the second split bore on the shaft and crossbar, respectively, the clamping mechanism comprising
  - a rod having one end connected to the body,
  - a closing handle, and
- 30 linkage connected between one end of the rod and one end of the closing handle and providing a mechanical advantage in transferring a force being applied to the closing handle to the rod.